

Philippines

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Situation Report #109

29 August 2022

Data reported by the Department of Health on 28 August 2022



3,874,641
Cases



3,784,449
Recoveries



61,667
Deaths



72,469,910 (65.0%)¹
Vaccinated with last dose of primary series

Please see the Philippines Department of Health (DOH) [Daily Case Bulletins](#) and [COVID-19 Tracker](#) for further information.

Summary of the epidemiological situation in Philippines²

Key numbers

19,262 cases
(22 - 28 August 2022)

27 deaths*
(22 - 28 August 2022)

151,571 tests
(22 - 28 August 2022)

13.9%
Test Positivity Rate
(22 - 28 August 2022)

24.9%
ICU bed occupancy for
COVID-19 patients

2,556
ICU beds for
COVID-19 patients

28.1%
Non-ICU bed occupancy for
COVID-19 patients

21,287
Non-ICU beds for
COVID-19 patients

*Obtained from FASSSTER COVID-19 death tally as of 29 August 2022

COVID-19 cases

There were 19,262 new cases (17.3 cases per 100,000 population³) reported in week 34 (22 - 28 August 2022), that is 19.3% lower than the previous week [15 - 21 August 2022: 23,867 new cases (21.4 cases per 100,000 population³)].

In week 34, the following regions recorded the highest case counts: National Capital Region (6,257 cases), Region IV-A: CALABARZON (3,116 cases), and Region III: Central Luzon (2,090 cases). As of 28 August 2022, a total of 3,874,641 COVID-19 cases had been recorded in the Philippines since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

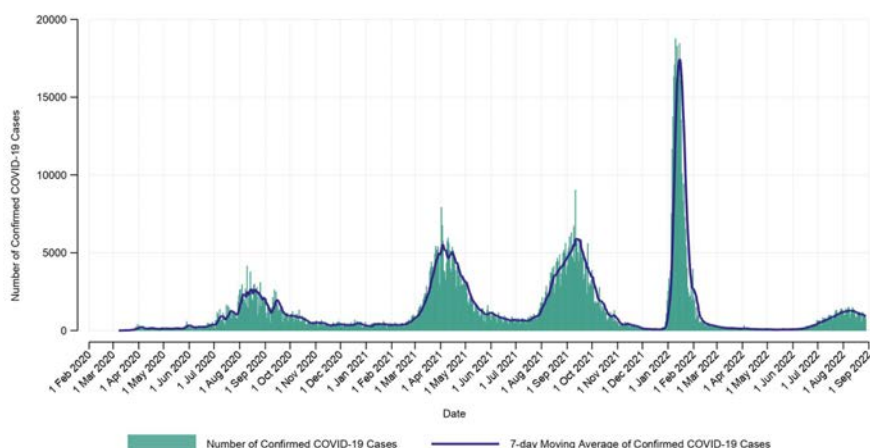


Figure 1. Daily reported COVID-19 cases in the Philippines (30 January 2020 – 28 August 2022)

¹Percent of total population (n = 111,572,254)

²Weekly case counts were obtained from FASSSTER COVID-19 PROJECT

³Total population (n=111,572,254)

Healthcare utilization

As of 28 August 2022, the COVID-19 ICU bed utilization is 24.9% and it has been decreasing for two weeks (weeks 33 and 34) after five weeks of increasing trend [weeks 28 - 32 (Figure 2)]. The daily number (7-day average) of COVID-19 occupied ICU beds reported in week 34 (675 beds) decreased by 8.0% from week 33 (734 beds), while there is no meaningful change in the utilization of COVID-19 dedicated mechanical ventilators (7-day average) from week 33 (361 ventilators) to week 34 (359 ventilators).

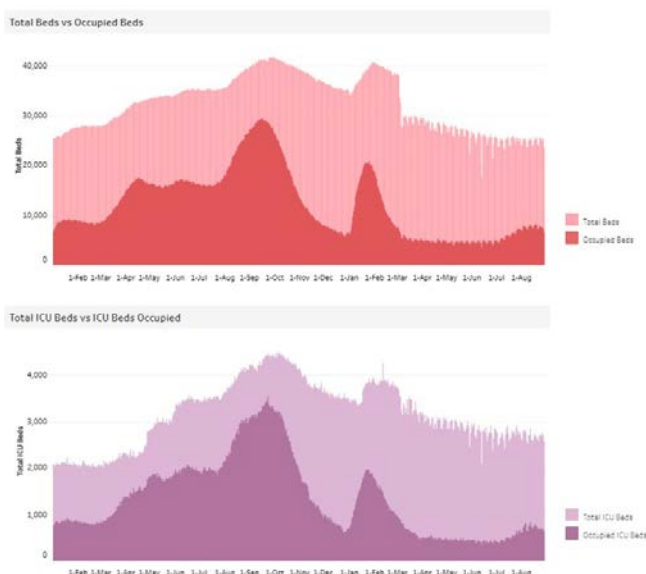


Figure 2. Total bed and ICU bed distribution over time stratified by occupancy (as of 28 August 2022)

COVID-19 deaths

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, 61,667 COVID-19 related deaths have been reported in Philippines as of 28 August 2022 (Figure 3). Between 1 May and 28 August, there were 640 deaths reported; of these 24 were in May, 27 were in June, 261 were in July, and 328 in 1 - 28 August. Delayed reporting of COVID-19 related deaths may occur due to ongoing verifications of cause of death.

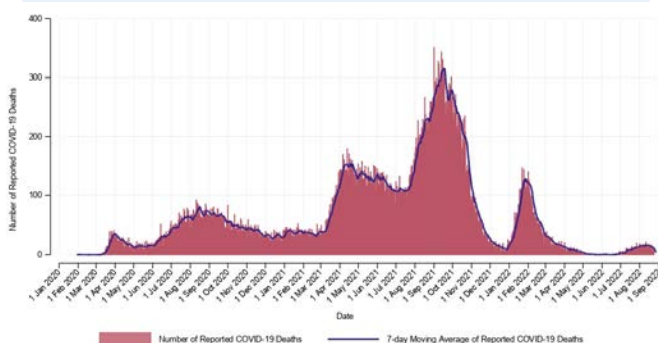


Figure 3. Daily number of COVID-19 deaths in the Philippines by date of death since 2020 (as of 28 August 2022)

Laboratory: testing rates, positivity rates and genomic surveillance

The recent testing rate (number of tests per 1,000 population) in the Philippines decreased by 11.0% - 1.36 tests per 1,000 population for week 34 (151,571 tests) compared to 1.53 tests per 1,000 population in week 33 (170,348 tests).

The positivity rate (number of individuals that tested positive/number of individuals tested) also decreased; 14.2% decline [week 34: 13.9% (20,028/143,665); week 33: 16.2% (26,112/161,669)].

On 26 August 2022, Department of Health Officer-in-Charge Dr Maria Rosario Vergerie said that from the latest Whole Genome Sequencing (samples sequenced on 24 August 2022), 147 were confirmed to be Omicron Variant of Concern (VOC). The Omicron sublineages detected were 139 (94.6%) BA.5, six (4.1%) BA.4, one (0.7%) BA.2.12.1, and one (0.7%) "Other sublineages". Three of the BA.5 cases were Returning Overseas Filipinos (ROFs) and the 136 (97.8%) BA.5 cases were detected across 13 of the 17 regions (Table 1).^[4, 5]

Region	BA.5	BA.4	BA.2.12.1	Other Sublineages
XI	45	1	0	0
IV-A	37	0	0	0
XII	17	2	0	0
V	13	3	0	0
I	6	0	1	0
NCR	5	0	0	0
III	3	0	0	0
VII	3	0	0	0
II	2	0	0	0
BARM	2	0	0	0
VI	1	0	0	0
VIII	1	0	0	0
X	1	0	0	0
XIII	0	0	0	1 ^[5]
TOTAL	136	6	1	1

Table 1. Number of BA.5, BA.4, BA.2.12.1, and Other sublineage cases detected per region in the Philippines, 26 August 2022

^[4] DOH reports 147 additional cases of Omicron subvariants | GMA News Online (gmanetwork.com)

^[5] PH detects 147 more cases of omicron offshoots | ABS-CBN News

On 16 August 2022, Dr Vergerie said that from the latest Whole Genome Sequencing (samples sequenced last 12 - 15 August 2022), 1,030 were confirmed to be Omicron VOC. The Omicron sublineages detected were 1,011 (98.2%) BA.5 and 19 (1.8%) BA.4.

Three of the BA.5 cases were Returning Overseas Filipinos (ROFs) and the 1,008 (99.7%) BA.5 cases were detected across 16 of the 17 regions (except BARM). At the time of reporting, nine hundred seven (89.7%) have already recovered, 53 (5.2%) were still in isolation, two (0.2%) have died and the status of 49 (4.8%) was still being verified. Six hundred ninety (68.2%) of the cases were fully vaccinated, 12 (1.2%) were partially vaccinated, while the vaccination status of the remaining 306 (30.3%) was still being verified.

The 19 BA.4 cases came from four regions. Fifteen of them (78.9%) have recovered, three (15.8%) were still in isolation, and one has died. Thirteen (68.4%) were vaccinated with last dose of primary series, one was vaccinated with first dose, while the vaccination status of the remaining five (26.3%) was still being verified (Table 2).^[6]

Region	BA.5	BA.4
VI	336	3
NCR	82	0
III	79	0
IV-A	75	0
I	72	0
V	70	3
Cordillera Administrative Region	67	1
XII	48	12
IV-B	44	0
X	34	0
XIII	27	0
VII	26	0
II	25	0
XI	17	0
IX	5	0
VIII	1	0
TOTAL	1,008	19

Table 2. Number of BA.5 and BA.4 cases detected per region in the Philippines, 16 August 2022

^[6] PH logs over 1,000 more cases of omicron subvariants | ABS-CBN News

Overall, 5,713 cases of Omicron VOC [5,353 (93.7%) cases of BA.5, 174 (3.0%) BA.4 cases, 183 (3.2%) BA.2.12.1 cases, two (0.04%) BA.2.75, and one (0.02%) case of "Other sublineages"] have been confirmed from WGS in the Philippines.

Vaccination

As of 28 August 2022, 65.0% of the total population were vaccinated with the last dose of primary series. Among healthcare workers (A1 priority group), the coverage is 96.4%, with 59.0% having received the first booster dose and 20.7% received the second booster dose. The Philippine government continues to prioritize COVID-19 vaccination (primary series and booster shots) of the vulnerable sectors of the population - elderly population (A2 priority group), persons with comorbidities (A3) and poor population (A5); their respective vaccination coverage (vaccinated with last dose of primary series) is 78.1%, 94.4%, and 72.9% (Figure 4).

For the first booster shot, 22.8% of the eligible population received the jab. The vaccination coverage of first booster dose for A2, A3, and A5 priority groups are 28.2%, 28.8%, and 13.0%, respectively.

Sub-nationally, the vaccination coverage (last dose of primary series) of A2 population is 90% and above in three regions (NCR, CAR, and Region II) while the coverage is less than 70% in four regions (Table 3). Meanwhile, the vaccination coverage of the A5 group is below 50% in seven of the seventeen regions (Table 4) while 12 of the 17 regions have a vaccination coverage of 90% and above in A3 population (Table 5).

Cumulative Coverage Rate % (A2)									
REGION	Projected Pop (Priority Group A2)	Vaccinated with last dose of primary series	%	Vaccinated with first dose of primary series	%	1st Booster Shot	%	2nd Booster Shot	%
NCR	1,154,287	1,046,648	90.7%	20,240	1.8%	614,936	53.3%	249,911	21.7%
CAR	136,093	122,064	90.8%	6,109	4.5%	53,962	39.9%	10,483	7.8%
1	501,412	446,419	89.0%	14,956	3.0%	171,771	34.3%	17,858	3.6%
2	323,017	300,258	93.0%	10,318	3.2%	100,836	31.2%	9,251	2.9%
3	1,064,045	840,546	79.0%	31,125	2.9%	379,570	35.7%	66,054	6.2%
4A	1,273,740	1,044,769	82.0%	49,816	3.9%	412,113	32.4%	78,577	6.2%
MIMAROPA	235,283	165,317	70.3%	10,509	4.5%	45,199	19.2%	3,225	1.4%
5	466,893	359,725	77.0%	14,215	3.0%	81,395	17.4%	5,816	1.2%
6	735,157	567,203	77.2%	(5,459)	-0.7%	137,630	18.7%	7,769	1.1%
7	877,107	407,529	60.2%	11,354	1.7%	96,182	14.2%	10,990	1.6%
8	389,645	272,331	69.9%	14,697	3.8%	58,397	15.0%	2,951	0.8%
9	273,362	203,099	74.3%	8,398	3.1%	50,837	18.6%	3,221	1.2%
10	384,311	262,919	73.6%	15,138	3.9%	85,145	22.2%	7,136	1.9%
11	407,116	264,752	65.0%	32,017	7.9%	70,565	17.3%	9,810	2.4%
12	306,824	215,512	70.2%	11,614	3.8%	48,621	15.8%	2,727	0.9%
CARAGA	207,153	176,140	85.0%	(5,129)	-2.5%	37,046	17.9%	2,244	1.1%
BARMM	186,876	85,124	50.9%	11,260	6.0%	14,100	7.5%	193	0.1%
PHIL	8,721,291	6,810,966	78.1%	251,178	2.9%	2,468,305	28.2%	488,216	5.6%

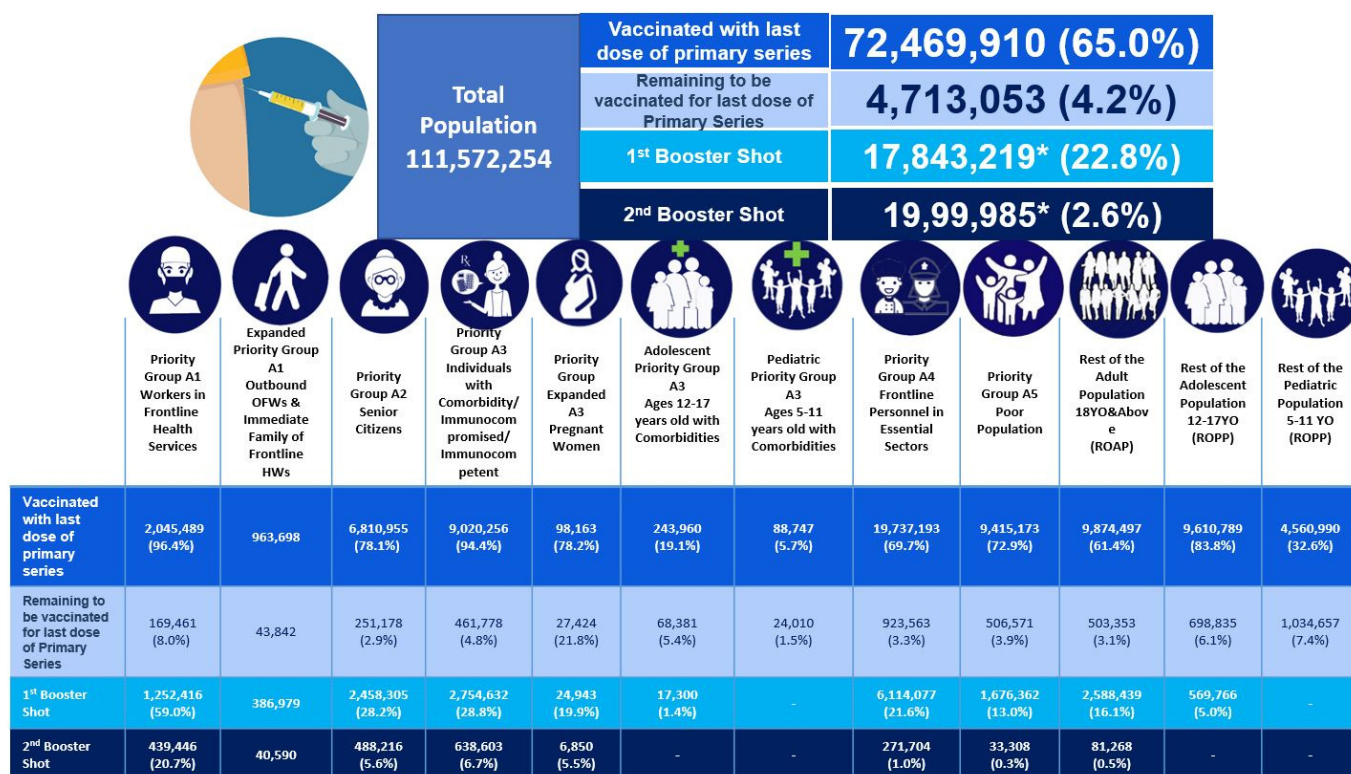
Table 3. Overview of vaccination of A2 population per region in Philippines (28 August 2022)

Cumulative Coverage Rate % (A5)									
REGION	Projected Priority Group A5	Vaccinated with last dose of primary series	%	Vaccinated with first dose of primary series	%	1st Booster Shot	%	2nd Booster Shot	%
NCR	663,588	2,170,363	327.1%	62,937	9.5%	624,864	94.2%	3,565	0.5%
CAR	179,565	150,521	83.8%	7,094	4.0%	27,072	15.1%	248	0.1%
1	618,160	405,748	65.6%	34,819	5.6%	85,547	13.8%	1,732	0.3%
2	315,918	232,908	73.7%	19,699	6.2%	39,995	12.7%	969	0.3%
3	882,423	637,224	72.2%	50,955	5.8%	144,162	16.3%	3,764	0.4%
4A	955,143	1,215,581	127.3%	47,994	5.0%	243,945	25.5%	9,039	0.9%
MIMAROPA	583,026	211,449	36.3%	17,094	2.9%	22,581	3.9%	397	0.1%
5	1,111,587	454,610	40.9%	49,830	4.5%	40,009	3.6%	1,306	0.1%
6	967,299	975,743	100.9%	(101,458)	-10.5%	115,188	11.9%	4,404	0.5%
7	854,691	504,169	59.0%	25,991	3.0%	57,105	6.7%	1,318	0.2%
8	838,772	339,252	40.4%	41,888	5.0%	35,835	4.3%	1,748	0.2%
9	896,151	452,261	50.5%	31,256	3.5%	66,130	7.4%	1,064	0.1%
10	798,837	304,906	38.2%	28,167	3.5%	45,991	5.8%	563	0.1%
11	771,534	435,397	56.4%	37,971	4.9%	39,449	5.1%	1,090	0.2%
12	743,511	249,493	33.6%	29,795	4.0%	17,182	2.3%	164	0.0%
CARAGA	566,586	221,139	39.0%	24,378	4.3%	22,454	4.0%	537	0.1%
BARMM	1,163,412	454,409	39.1%	98,161	8.4%	48,823	4.2%	694	0.1%
PHIL	12,911,193	9,415,173	72.9%	506,571	3.9%	1,676,362	13.0%	33,308	0.3%

Table 4. Overview of vaccination of A5 population per region in Philippines (28 August 2022)

Cumulative Coverage Rate % (A3 w/ Comorbidities, Immunocompromised and Immunocompetent)									
REGION	Projected Priority Group	Vaccinated with last dose of primary series	%	Vaccinated with first dose of primary series	%	1st Booster Shot	%	2nd Booster Shot	%
NCR	2,301,372	2,264,456	98.4%	125,608	5.5%	839,247	36.5%	276,795	12.0%
CAR	187,289	188,646	100.7%	5,230	2.8%	85,802	45.8%	7,109	3.8%
1	467,742	463,540	99.1%	21,107	4.5%	167,623	35.8%	36,850	7.9%
2	299,165	288,299	96.4%	15,954	5.3%	109,487	36.6%	18,133	6.1%
3	1,043,162	1,029,414	98.7%	47,541	4.6%	367,128	35.2%	106,025	10.2%
4A	1,145,277	1,026,720	89.6%	59,297	5.2%	320,335	28.0%	90,087	7.9%
MIMAROPA	224,855	195,995	87.2%	9,804	4.4%	51,809	23.0%	8,687	3.9%
5	433,505	327,211	75.5%	35,780	8.3%	61,399	14.2%	5,870	1.4%
6	638,715	618,670	96.9%	41,348	6.5%	101,940	16.0%	11,131	1.7%
7	563,834	515,501	91.4%	23,803	4.2%	119,589	21.2%	14,195	2.5%
8	336,264	245,581	73.0%	12,572	3.7%	45,060	13.4%	3,812	1.1%
9	281,047	282,111	100.4%	6,526	3.0%	86,853	30.9%	10,348	3.7%
10	356,812	351,814	98.6%	12,909	3.6%	126,619	35.5%	20,506	5.7%
11	405,020	404,482	99.9%	7,625	1.9%	81,734	20.2%	12,039	3.0%
12	364,278	359,755	98.8%	16,428	4.5%	89,553	24.6%	7,182	2.0%
CARAGA	205,086	213,968	104.3%	(3,138)	-1.5%	56,383	27.5%	7,820	3.8%
BARMM	298,914	244,083	81.7%	21,384	7.2%	44,071	14.7%	2,014	0.7%
PHIL	9,862,337	9,629,256	94.4%	461,778	4.8%	2,764,632	28.8%	638,603	6.7%

Table 5. Overview of vaccination of A3 population per region in Philippines (28 August 2022)



*eligible population for booster

Figure 4. Overview of COVID-19 vaccination status of Philippines' population as of 28 August 2022

Strategic approach to COVID-19 Prevention, Detection, and Control

Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

Risk Communications

WHO Philippines provided DOH Health Promotion Bureau technical assistance at the Writeshop for the Equity-Based Vaccination Playbook last 23 August 2022. Partners from the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) and Save the Children also supported the workshop.



Ms Christine Joy Peradilla, Communications Officer for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Immunization (VDI), delivered the Risk Communication module for more than 100 participants at the RCCE and Microplanning Training Sessions with Equity Pioneers in Cebu City. The training session was co-organized by DOH and WHO, in partnership with PDRF and Save the Children.



Partner Coordination

Updates from USAID

USAID helps vaccinate persons deprived of liberty

Persons deprived of liberty also need to be protected from COVID-19. USAID and the Provincial Health Office of Nueva Ecija vaccinated 448 persons deprived of liberty at the Nueva Ecija Provincial Jail. USAID mobilized vaccinators and data encoders to administer 39 first doses and 409 booster doses. In the Central Luzon region (Region III), USAID has continuously deployed vaccinators and data encoders and organized advocacy campaigns to extend COVID-19 vaccinations to vulnerable and remote communities.



A senior citizen inmate gets his blood pressure taken as part of pre-vaccination screening.



Nueva Ecija inmates get their dose of the COVID-19 vaccines.

USAID Reaches Indigenous Communities with COVID-19 Vaccine Information

USAID and experts from the Nueva Ecija Provincial Health Office guested on *DWNE 900khz AM Teleradyo* to discuss the COVID-19 vaccine's safety and efficacy and answer queries received via SMS. During the radio guesting, USAID and the Provincial Health Office announced the series of vaccination activities to be held in several indigenous and far-flung communities. The radio talk show reached over 334,000 people from 16 indigenous communities in just two weeks.

Marc Nicole Mercado, USAID's ReachHealth Project Provincial Technical Officer for Nueva Ecija, joined other experts from the Provincial Health Office to discuss COVID-19 vaccines. Mel Ciriaco (radio anchor) opened the program and facilitated the discussion among the panel of experts to educate the public on the COVID-19 vaccines.